



Backlog reduction: Results and future challenges



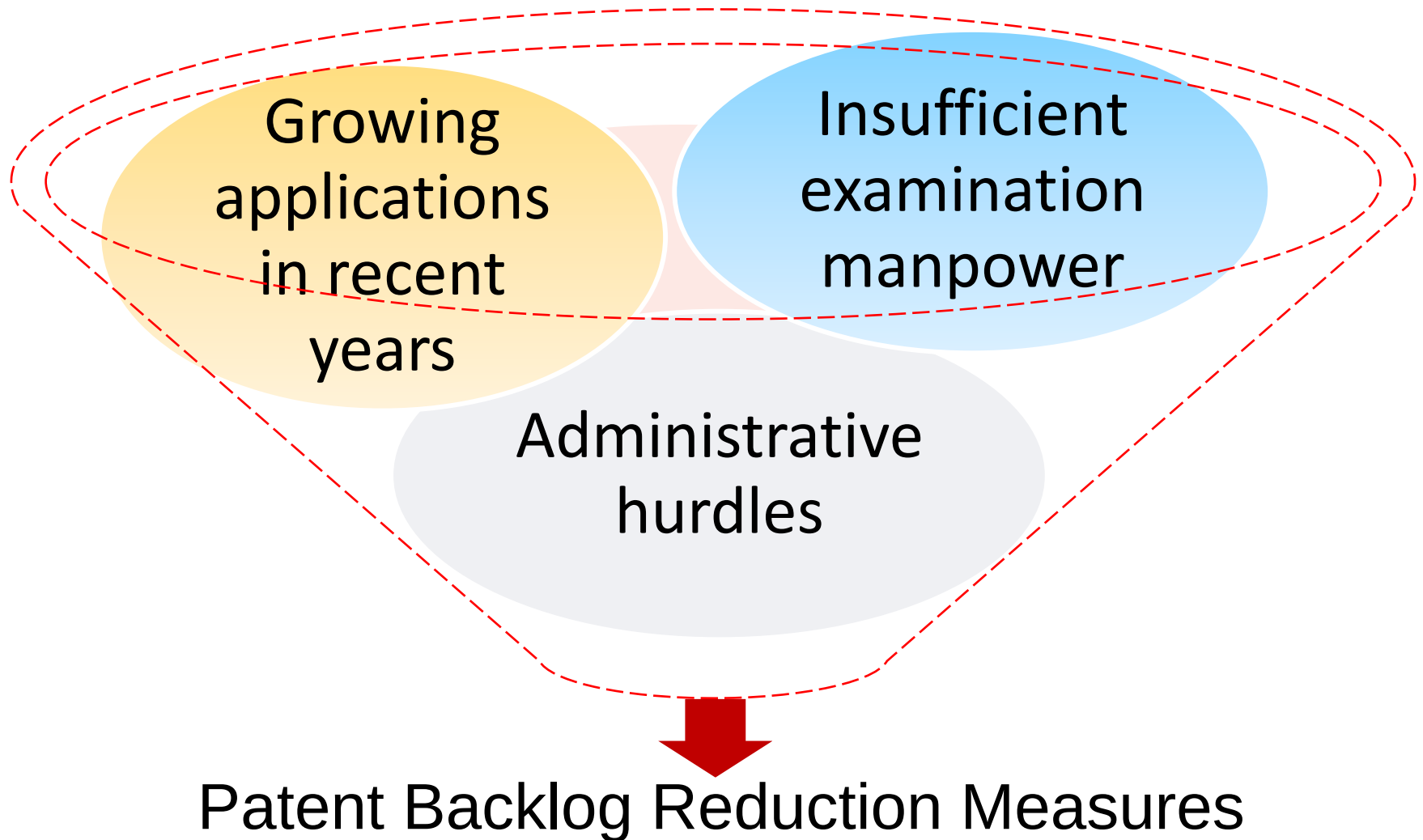
Intellectual Property Office (TIPO)
Chinese Taipei



Outline

- I. Background
- II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results
- III. Future Challenges and Tasks
- IV. Summary

I. Background



II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (1/7)

Assisting prior art search

- Add manpower: Patent search assistants
- Set up Patent Search Center (PSC)

Enhancing examination capacity

- Increase number of annual disposals
- Strengthen examiners' professional capabilities

Patent Backlog Reduction Measures

- Hire 170 contracted examiners on 5-year term
- Fill up examiner vacancies

Increasing examination manpower

- Accelerated Examination Program (AEP)
- PPH partnerships with the USPTO, SPTO, JPO and KIPO
- Collective Interview Program

Programs on expediting examination

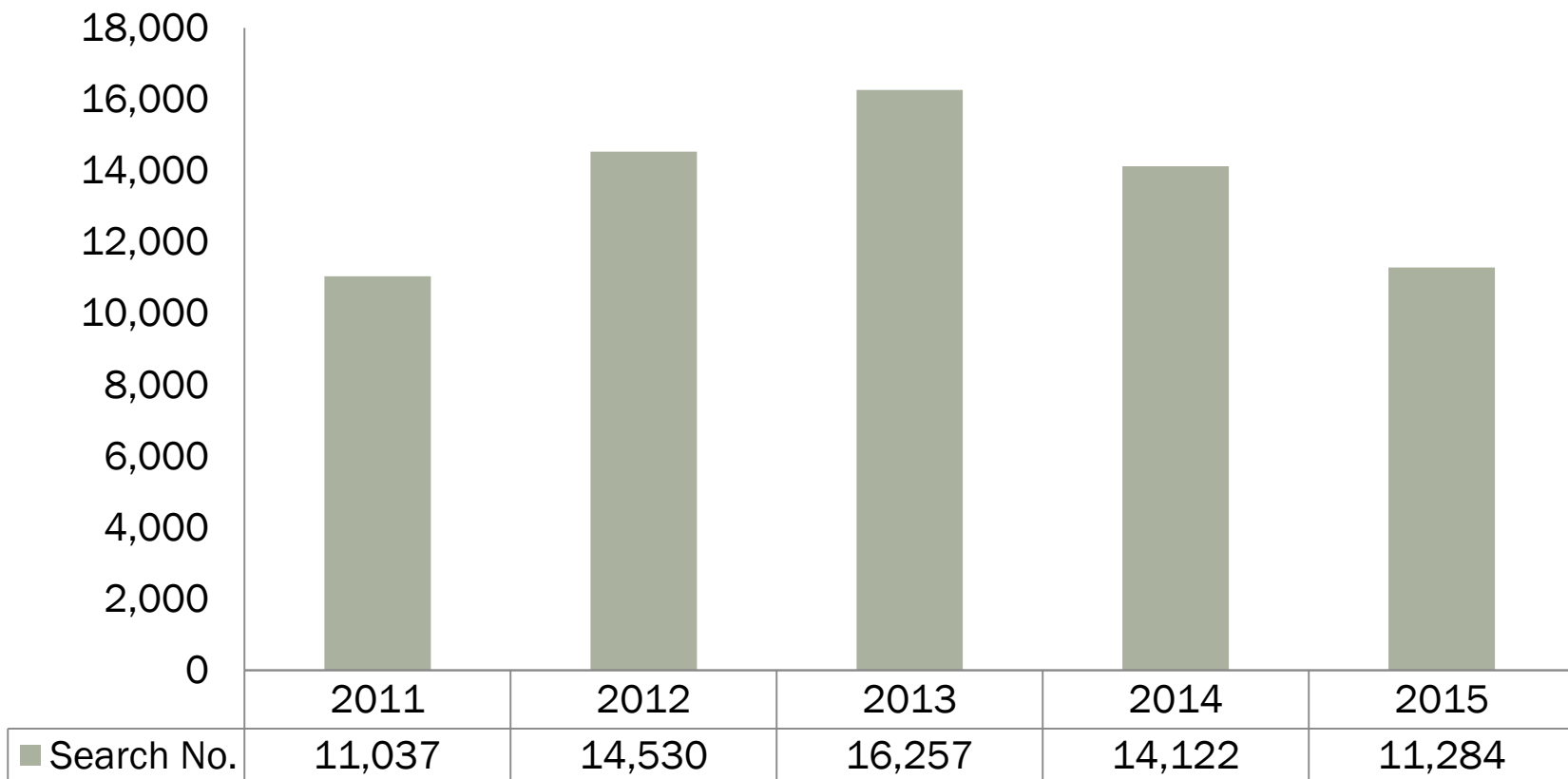
II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (2/7)

◆ Add manpower: Patent search assistants

- A total of 201 assistants with R&D background were recruited (each serves 3 years) between 2010 and 2015. These assistants contributed to 67,230 prior art searches
- The assistants were recruited exclusively for prior art search
- Technical comparison and examination notices are still being written by examiners

II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (3/7)

Prior art searches conducted by patent search assistants



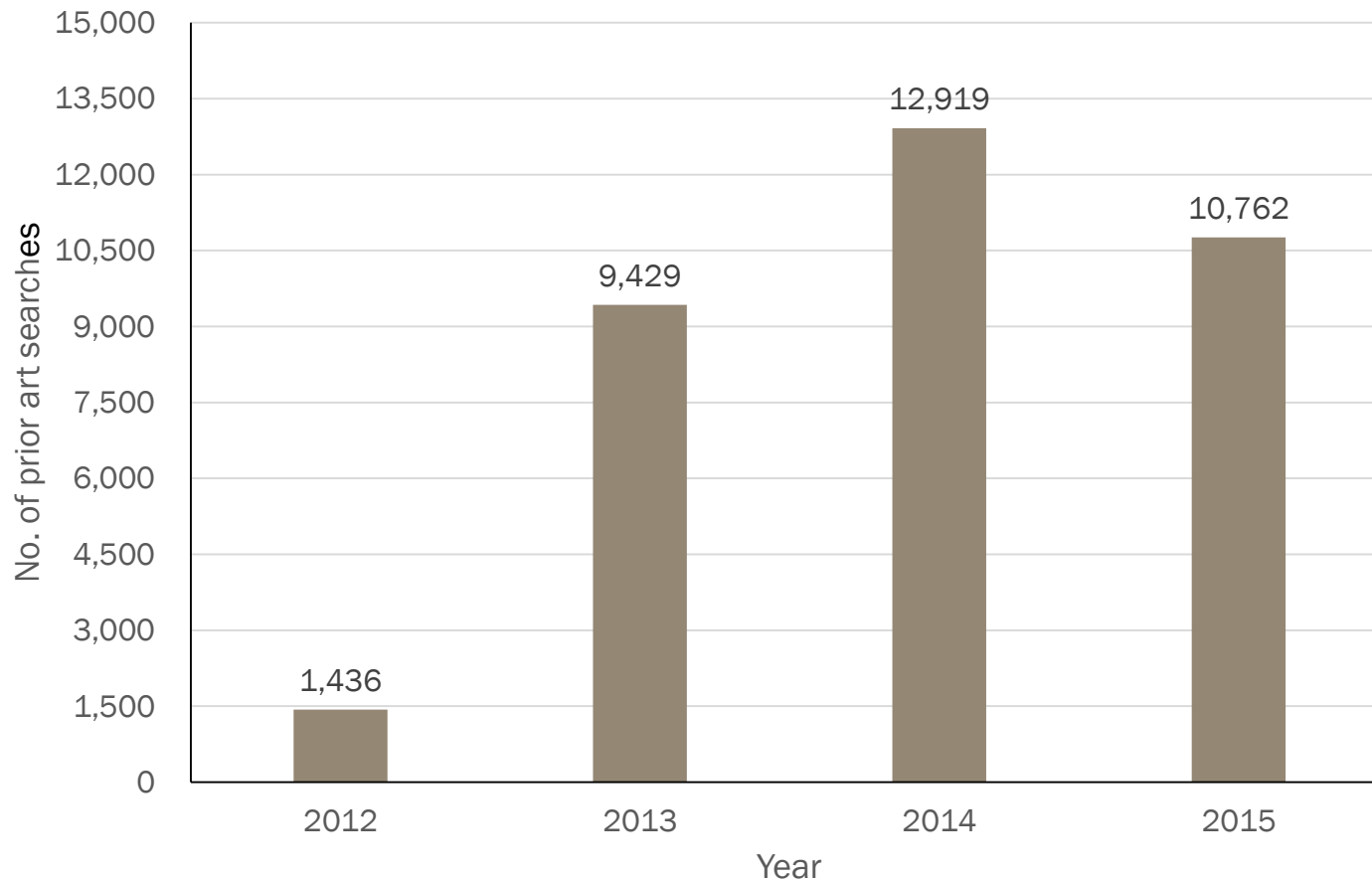
II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (4/7)

◆ Set up Patent Search Center (PSC)



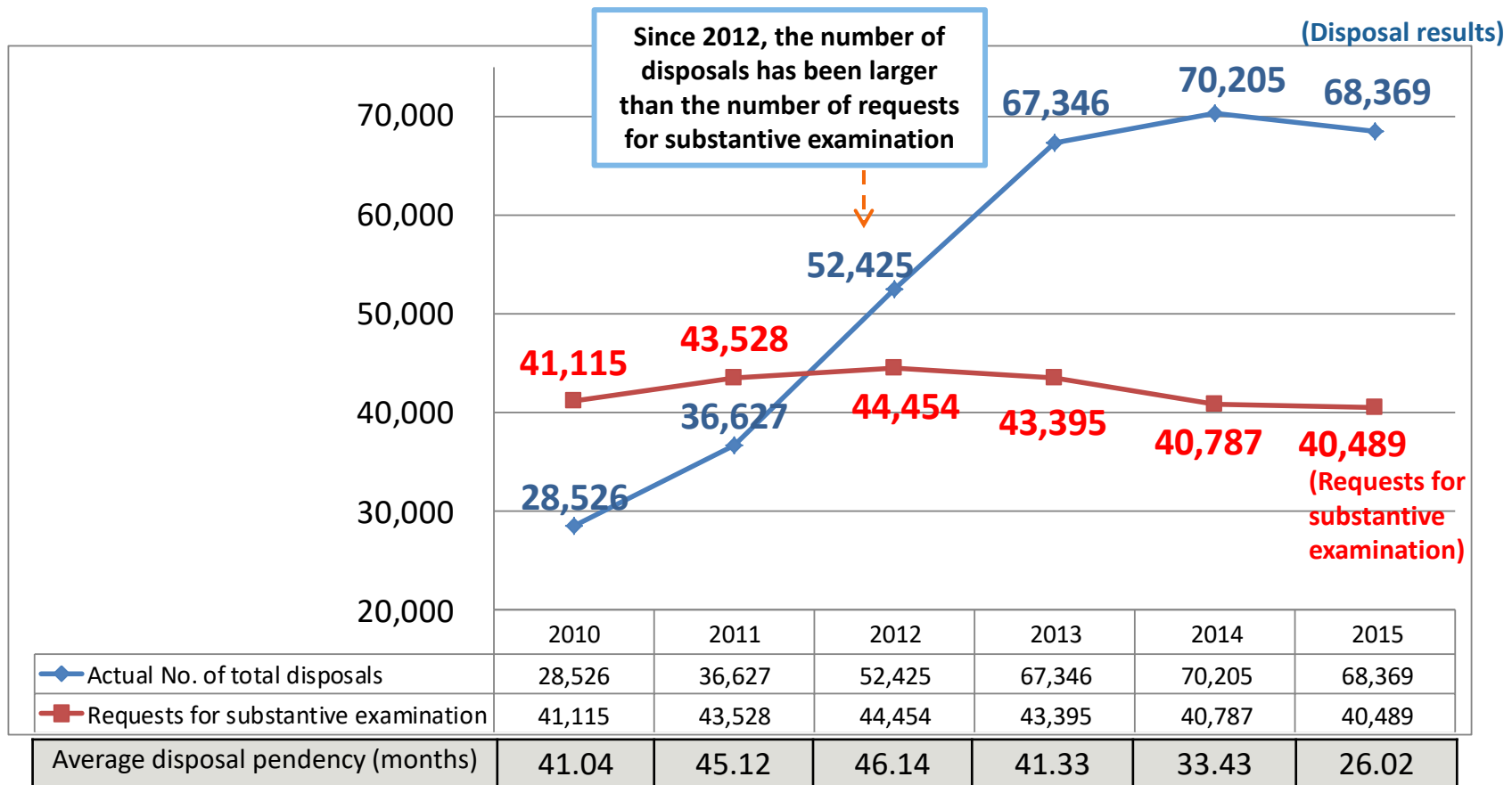
II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (5/7)

Prior art searches conducted by PSC



II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (6/7)

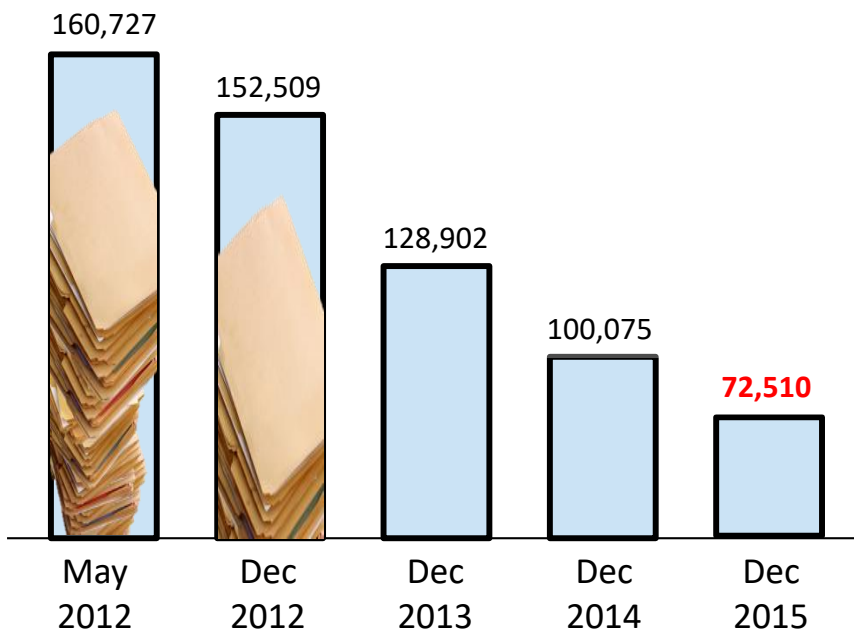
◆ Growing number of disposals (2010-2015)



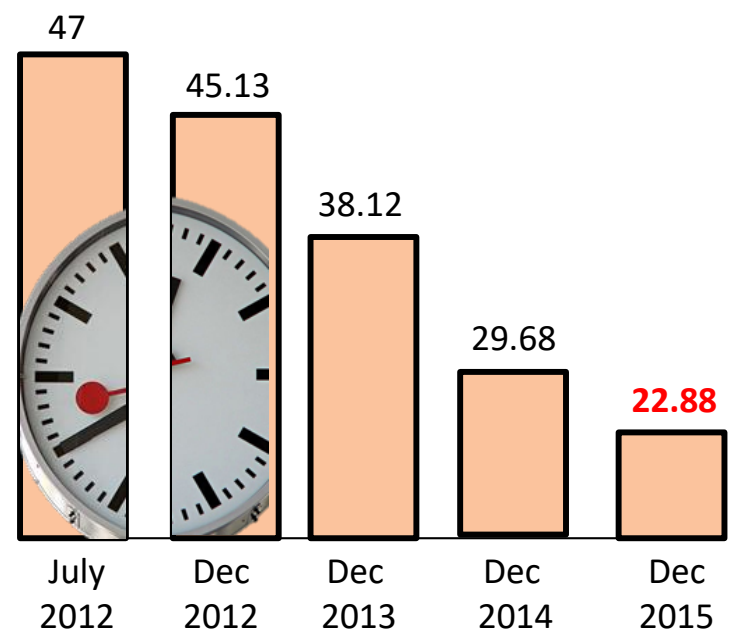
- The number of disposals (323,498) from 2010 to 2015 exceeds that (304,690) projected for the same period by 18,808 cases
- In Dec. 2015, the average disposal pendency was lowered to 22.88 months

II. Patent Backlog Reduction Measures and Results (7/7)

Pending applications reduced by 88,217 cases



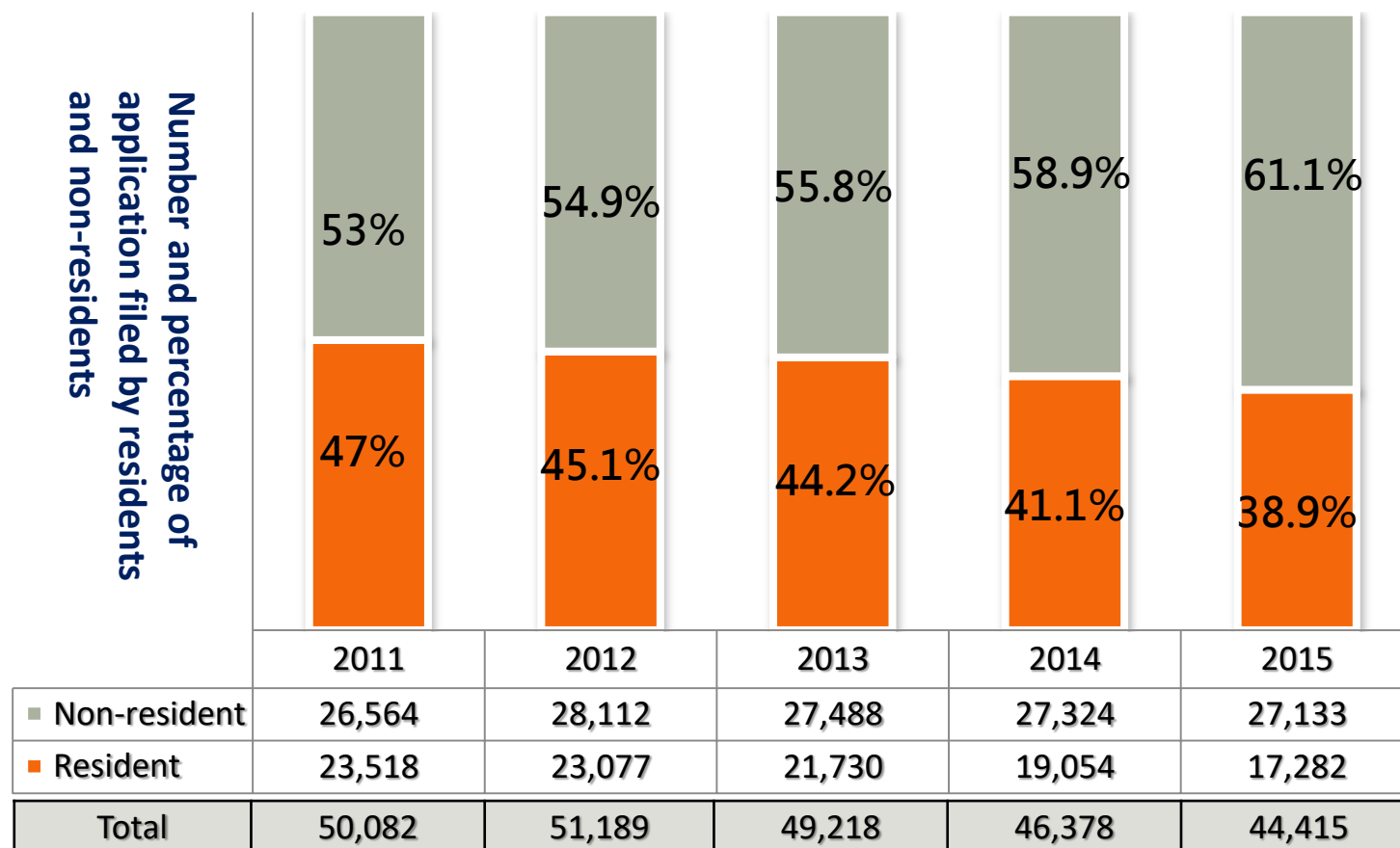
Average disposal pendency lowered to 22.88 months



III. Future Challenges and Tasks (1/5)

Challenges

Decreasing number of invention patent applications



- No obvious change in the number of invention applications filed by non-residents

III. Future Challenges and Tasks (2/5)

Challenges

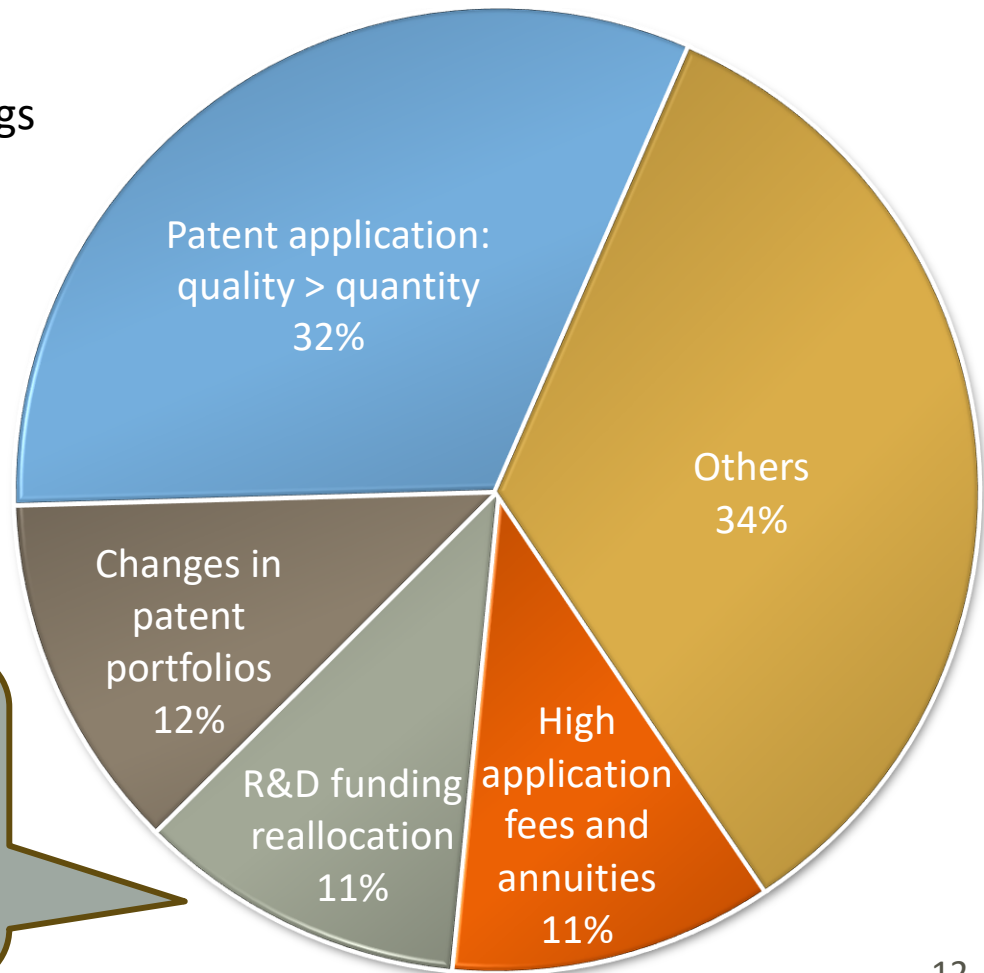
Reason analysis to the decreasing number of invention patent applications

- In 2014 and 2015, TIPO conducted surveys and held consultation meetings with professionals from the industry, and education and research institutes

Consideration of the two major entities of patent application :

1. Patent monetization
2. Global budget

Consideration of research & education institutes :
KPI of government's subsidies places emphasis on the efficiency of technology transfer



III. Future Challenges and Tasks (3/5)

Tasks

Improving quality and efficacy of patent examination

Shorter examination pendency

- Effective backlog reduction
- Consolidated search database
- Consolidated IT system

Better examination quality

- Establish feedback mechanism for patent quality
- Strengthen review of examination quality
- Conduct experience-sharing seminars

III. Future Challenges and Tasks (4/5)

Tasks

Assist the industry and academia in strengthening their ability to build patent portfolios



Sectors of industry



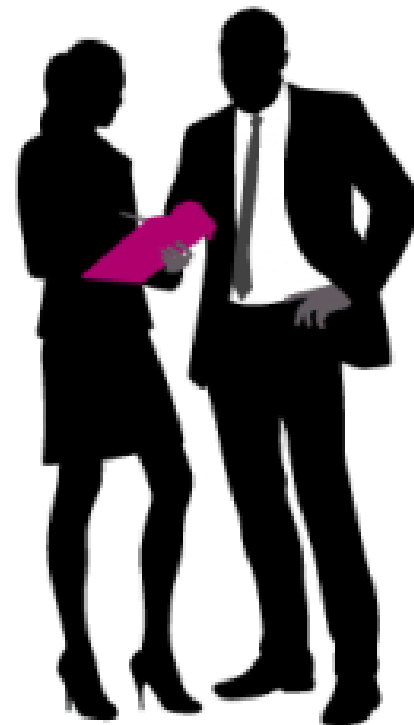
Education and research institutes

Make a request

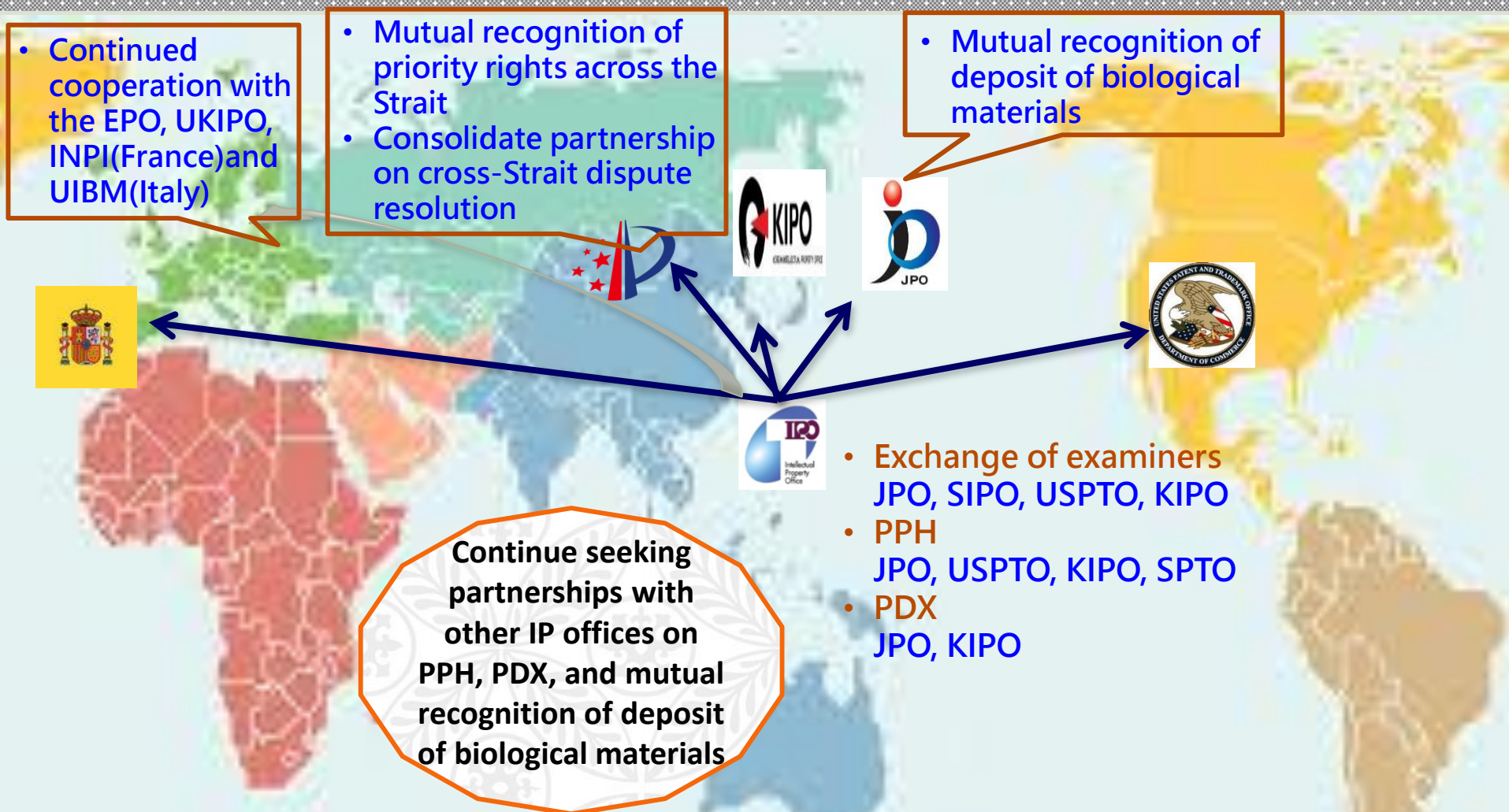
Arrange a visit

Customized courses
conducted by TIPO's
patent examiners

Make a request



III. Future Challenges and Tasks (5/5)



Tasks

TIPO partnering with major IP offices

IV. Summary

- **The Patent Backlog Reduction Project has been successful**
- **Goal of 2016**
 - **Disposal pendency: 21 months**
 - **First OA pendency: 13 months**
- **Achieving balance between application and disposal numbers in the years following 2017**
- **Helping the academia and industry strengthen their ability to build patent portfolios**



Thank you